

# Essex County Federation of Agriculture to hold wind energy workshops

BY ANDY COMBER

Proposals for numerous wind power developments across the county have prompted the Essex County Federation of Agriculture to hold information sessions on wind energy.

"Hopefully it will answer some of the farmers' questions," said ECFA President Bernard Nelson, speaking of two wind energy workshops to be held March 29.

Nelson said the workshops would be similar to ones held last year by the ECFA, including a Leamington workshop done in partnership with the Essex County Stewardship Network.

"A lot of the municipalities are dealing with this issue," said Nelson, noting that the first meeting, to be held at the Essex Civic Centre, will include primarily municipal politicians and interested staff, such as town planners. A second



Essex County Federation of Agriculture President Bernard Nelson.

evening meeting will take place in Tilbury, with the public invited to hear many of the same speakers.

"It is strictly an information session. Not for or against," he said.

Nelson said topics would include landowner leases, power company requirements, and environmental impacts.

Among the speakers will be Ted Cowan, an alternative energy researcher with

the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, and Juan Anderson, an aerospace engineer who has taken a variety of courses relevant to the wind industry including airfoil analysis, composite materials, computer modeling, electric generators and power generation systems.

Nelson said they are also

trying to bring in a municipal leader from Port Burwell to speak on the experiences of their municipality with the Erie Shores Wind Farm, a project with over 60 large-scale wind turbines developed by the AIM PowerGen Corporation of Toronto. In addition, they are hoping to include a farmer who will speak about



land leases and turbines.

The planned meetings caught the attention of the newly formed Essex County Wind Action Group, which is concerned that residents are getting a "one-sided" view of wind power development.

"Developers aren't likely to reveal the negative aspects of a project while trying to sell you on it," said Malden resident Bill Anderson, chair of ECWAG. "But research shows an abundance of evidence that there are clearly some serious problems with locating these large industrial wind turbines in close proximity to homes, schools and sensitive wildlife areas."

In the next few months, ECWAG is planning to send delegations to county municipalities, including the Town of Essex, to

express their concerns over numerous wind power developments across much of Essex County.

"We feel it is the responsibility of our local and provincial political leaders to ensure that all the implications of the projects, both positive and negative, are carefully considered," said Anderson.

Supported by its member municipalities, Essex County is preparing to begin a regional study to review the issue of wind energy. The study will examine the siting of wind turbines, taking into consideration issues such as sound, flicker, ice throw, density of units, the protection of viewscapes, and bird migration routes.

The public meeting hosted by ECFA will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Tilbury beginning at 7 p.m.

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Coffee and Donut Store has closed. All tables, chairs, miscellaneous kitchen items, etc. (Complete list available on Monday). Also consigned is Bank and Finance items from personal bankruptcies to include TVs, DR sets, appliances, stereo systems, plus other household items. And also included will be a partial Windsor Estate to include some older furnishing (possible some antique pcs.) old postcards, glassware, wrought iron patio set, wicker rocker (very old) and other items from this estate. **Terms:** cash or Interac. 10% Buyer Premium. **Note:** This sale will be in conjunction with the musical store of the former Labontes. Sale is Saturday, March 24 at 10 a.m. at 13400 Desro Dr., Tecumseh.

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## LAVIN AUCTIONS INC. MUSIC STORE HAS CLOSED

Under instructions from Southwestern Bailiff Services Inc. we have scheduled a Public Auction for Saturday, March 24 at 10 a.m. Preview at 9 a.m. for the second location of the former Labonte School of Music. Musical instruments to include five guitars - G.K., Jasmine, Sierra, plus others. Seven drum sets - Tama, Yamaha, DXP, Piano - Bergmann Heritage series by Young Chang, Crate Amps models P118S and others, stage lighting - Leviton D4D MX plus others, fog machine, music stands, books and displays, storage units, cymbals, file cabinets, Sharp cash register, vac, plastic chairs, tables, assortment cables, cabinet w/ picks plus many more related items. **Terms** cash or Interac. 10% Buyer Premium. **Note:** Sale will be held at 13400 Desro Dr., Tecumseh - corner of E.C. Row and Manning.

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